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Stammering and Cognate Defects of Speech. By C. S. BLUERMEL. Vol. I, "The Psychology of Stammering." Pp. 365. Vol. II, "Contemporaneous Systems of Treating Stammering: Their Possibilities and Limitations." Pp. 391. New York: G. E. Stechert & Co., 1913.

In these two volumes the author has attempted to present a complete theory of the cause of stammering and to review in a critical way the various systems that are now employed in this country and abroad in the treatment of this defect.

The first volume is an elaborate study of the physiology and psychology of speech. Special emphasis is laid upon the power of forming mental images. There is little or no discussion of the co-ordinations which are involved in producing speech. As one reads the discussions of this first volume he is impressed with the fact that the type of psychology accepted by the author is the type which was current a generation ago when the English association writers were the dominant writers in the field. The author has, to be sure, added a discussion of the various centers in the cerebrum which are involved in speech activity, but his interpretation of these physiological facts is entirely dominated by his imagery psychology. To a period of psychology which devotes itself very largely to the study of behavior, as distinguished from the study of imagery, the theories of the author will hardly be acceptable. The motor processes of speech certainly deserve to be considered as motor processes rather than as mere products of imagery.

The second volume is a very useful collection of statements regarding the methods employed in treating stammering. It also sets forth in vivid terms the methods employed by charlatans who practice upon victims of speech defects. The book gives a number of quotations from pamphlets of various doctors and various schools which make it appear that there is a great deal of untrained and unskilled tampering with this defect. The detailed exercises which are reported for the treatment of speech defects will be useful, not only to those who have to deal with actual defects, but to those who are engaged in training in clear articulation and expression among normal individuals. The second volume is less theoretical and very much less dominated by the author's special psychological point of view.

C. H. J.

Better Rural Schools. By GEORGE HERBERT BETTS and OTIS EARLE HALL. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Co. Pp. 512.

In the present movement for a new and more universal education, embracing the industrial aspects, the new book entitled *Better Rural Schools*, by Betts and Hall, is entitled to an important place. This volume is an exhaustive and thorough treatment of the problems of the rural school in America. An especial merit of the book is the wide range of actual rural problems that are taken up and treated in a sensible, suggestive, and constructive manner. The